

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 9 and 11 are the only independent claims in the pending application. Each of these independent claims has been amended to include limitations of "enabling execution of the FSM in response to detecting a predefined value in a field in the microinstruction and for preventing execution of the FSM when the predefined value is not detected". Such a limitation is not disclosed by, nor made obvious in view of, the prior art.


Renard does not show such FSM control in response to a predefined value in a field of a microinstruction. In fact, Renard teaches away from the present invention in that Renard's state machine appears to be always enabled. There is apparently no way to disable Renard's state machine, much less a showing of how to disable or enable the state machine in response to a "value in a field in the microinstruction".

Other of the claims add additional limitations. For example, claim 15 recites that a microinstruction field "is used for a purpose other than to invoke FSM processing" when the FSM is disabled. Claim 16 is directed to using multiple instructions for FSM control.

Accordingly, the present claims are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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